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LECTURE LV.

MALAYA AND THE WAR.

THE charm and romance of the picturesque and beautiful hilly country of MALAYA interspersed with thick jungles are in the eyes of Somerset Maugham and Bruce Lockhart very real and intriguing. But a more prosaic and, in the eyes of utilitarians, more profitable avocation of the ordinary settler in that rich and virgin country is money-making. The country is a positive Ophir. Here and there gold deposits are found, but more valuable than gold in these days are the rubber and tin which are found in abundance in most parts of this country.

THE ORIGIN OF SINGAPORE. 2. To most of the world, however, the word 'MALAYA' mainly denotes the Island of SINGAPORE, which lies at the toe of the peninsula. SINGAPORE itself was founded by Stamford Raffles in 1819, on land bought from the Sultan of JOHORE for a payment of £ 5,000 a year. At that time, the island was only a poor fishing village, and its inhabitants, the Orang Laut, the men of the sea. In the 122 years which have passed since then, the changes which have come about are remarkable. MALAYA has been brought into contact with the wealthy countries of the west, and her tin and rubber supplies have become of great importance to NEW YORK, LONDON, the Continent and TOKYO.

THE PROPHET WITHOUT HONOUR.

3. To Sir Stamford Raffles himself INDIA and the countries on the northern and eastern shores of the Indian Ocean owe a debt of gratitude. His amazing political foresight reduced the risk of INDIA and BURMA being attacked from the east in war time to the least possible dimensions. But, in these days there is something ironical in the reflection that when Raffles founded SINGAPORE and hoisted the British flag there, he had in mind as the most dangerous rival of BRITAIN her present ally, the Dutch. Nor was his vision universally approved. During his own lifetime, an ignorant and unforeseeing world heaped censure and ridicule on him. When he first concluded a contract with the Sultan of JOHORE, the East India Co. were so annoyed with him that they even went to the extent of making his widow pay the expenses of the mission which was to lead eventually to the establishment of the greatest naval and air base in the Far East.

THE NECESSITY AND IMPORTANCE OF THE SINGAPORE BASE FOR GREAT BRITAIN AND AMERICA.

4. No one who knows the large and varied interests which GREAT BRITAIN and AMERICA have in this zone of the Pacific, will be surprised at the very great importance these Powers attach to the defence of MALAYA, for it includes the defence of all British possessions in and around SINGAPORE, INDIA, BURMA, AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND for the one, and the security of the PHILLIPPINES and other American possessions to the east of it, *vis a vis* her rival JAPAN, for the other.

5. "Trade follows the flag", and so besides its strategical importance MALAYA has acquired an enormous commercial significance. SINGAPORE is on the direct trade route between INDIA and the FAR-EAST. It is a clearing house for the wealthy territory of the NETHERLANDS INDIES, as well as for CHINA, JAPAN and the PHILLIPPINES, and their traffic across the Pacific to the American Continent. On any day in peace time about 200 million pounds worth of British cargoes pass through the straits of MALACCA, including some two-thirds of the world's supplies of rubber, and about 60 per cent of the world's tin. Both these are vital war commodities, the possession of which may help us to win the war, just as the lack of them may force the enemy to own defeat. More than 30 million tons of ocean-going shipping use the SINGAPORE port every year, it has become the sixth biggest harbour in the world,

and in war time, no less than in peace, it is the centre of trade for the whole of the eastern ARCHIPELAGO, its routes radiating northward to CHINA, JAPAN and AMERICA, southward to AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND and westward to INDIA, AFRICA and EUROPE. For peaceful or for belligerent purposes therefore, a strong defence of SINGAPORE is not only an Imperial but a world necessity, and the prophetic Sir Stamford Raffles actually under-estimated the facts when he said in 1819 that "what MALTA is in the west, SINGAPORE may become in the east. My settlement promises to become an emporium and the pride of the east."

THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF MALAYA TO INDIA.

6. There are naturally many fields in which INDIA and MALAYA can do business to their mutual advantage, and the result is that MALAYA has become more or less a settlement for enterprising Indians. Many sons of INDIA, especially those from the poor Tamil country where scarcity is by no means unknown, have found employment at good rates of pay, with living conditions several 100 per cent better than in their home villages, with the result that about a quarter of a million South Indian villagers are permanently settled in MALAYA, with another half a million people from all parts of INDIA to keep them company. Nor are all mere estate labourers. The Punjab is well represented in all kinds of jobs, while people from MALABAR have succeeded to a considerable extent in entrenching themselves in the higher grades of service. It is of special local interest to recall that while Indian businessmen in MALAYA are of course drawn from nearly every trading community, our own Nattukkottai Chettiars take the lead, and pit their financial acumen against that of their nearest rivals in the banking line, the Chinese, who also own large financial and trade interests in the country.

THE DECISION TO CONSTRUCT A BASE.

7. Nearly a century after the original founder was dead and forgotten, and just before the first World War, Lord Fisher advocated the development of a naval base at SINGAPORE, to permit the expansion of the British Navy on a double Fleet principle, one to be based in the FAR EAST and the other in Home Waters and the Mediterranean. Once more a man and his idea seem to have been before their time, for an Anglo-Japanese alliance was arranged, thus serving to guard British interests in the Pacific during the war of 1914–18 and make

the contemplated vast expenditure on eastern defences unnecessary. But after that war, and the abrogation of the Anglo-Japanese alliance following the WASHINGTON Conference, the situation changed very quickly, and chiefly as the result of the demand from the Dominions for increased protection, it was decided in 1921 to develop the naval base at SINGAPORE, and plans were put in hand at once for a giant graving dock big enough to accommodate any battleship afloat.

The Japanese never liked the project, pretending that it would provide a base for aggression against the Japanese Empire, and that it contravened the intentions of the WASHINGTON Treaty which limited the expansion of fortifications in the Pacific zone. In point of fact SINGAPORE is far away from JAPAN, as far from YOKOHAMA as GIBRALTAR is from NEW YORK—as well as being outside the zone to which the limitations of the WASHINGTON Treaty applied, so that its mainly defensive rôle was obvious enough. Anyhow, the wonderful work was successfully carried out and completed.

THE NAVAL BASE. 8. The 20 or more square miles of deep water anchorage at SELETAR on the eastern side of the island is more than enough to accommodate the whole British Fleet, with magnificent docks and equipment in what may be regarded as a very modern naval township, housing thousands of work-hands, gigantic workshops, repair shops, ordnance and store departments and quarters for ships' crews. The port's primary function is to condition and equip ships, so that they may remain at sea as long as is required by their multifarious duties. Special mention should be made of the "King George the Sixth Graving Dock," opened in 1938 and one of the most important of the base's facilities. To a casual observer, it looks like little more than a very large and nicely finished hole in the ground, but it can accommodate the largest ship afloat—warship or liner, and is only equalled by the huge floating dock (the materials for the construction of which were brought from ENGLAND) which can also take the largest warship afloat. At berths along the seawall and wharves several warships can be accommodated at the same time, while they are taking on fresh stores and fuel. In the warehouses, which provide cold and air conditioned storage, enough food and essential supplies to meet the requirements of a reasonably-sized town are held against any possible demand. Enormous stocks of oil are maintained to supply the fleet. In short, as a naval base, SINGAPORE may be described as the most

important single factor in Imperial defence in the East. It is of course strongly defended against air attack, and it is equally strongly guarded from the sea by its elaborate system of coastal batteries, whose fire can be accurately directed by several alternative methods, giving an enemy raider a very poor chance of approaching the island from any direction.

THE AIR BASE. 9. SINGAPORE is fully equipped with modern aircraft to encounter and surmount a hostile demonstration by an enemy air fleet. The air base consists of administration buildings, accommodation for officers, men and technical staff, vast hangars, workshops and repair shops. There are aircraft of all types, bombers, torpedo-bombers, reconnaissance aircraft and flying boats, as well as fighters in abundance. Their number is constantly growing, particularly as new American types come in, until it has become obvious that SINGAPORE has become one of the most important centres of air power in the Empire.

THE DEFENCE OF MALAYA'S LAND FRONTIERS. 10. The defensive strength of MALAYA is not confined to SINGAPORE'S aerial and naval equipment. The hilly country to the north-west has been made into an armed camp. From the defence point of view, the problem is to find the best means of keeping watch on all practicable routes through the jungle into THAILAND (where sometime back we heard reports of increasing Japanese influence, and of the stationing of more Thai troops in South THAILAND), whether by rail or tar-machadam roads, or paths known only to smugglers. The defence of this frontier has been entrusted to the Indian Army, whose patrols are vigilant and constant, and who steadily and efficiently practise jungle warfare, with parties led by 'cutters.' Strong points for offensive and defensive purposes have been found and established in the vast jungle area, and it has been made possible to blow up roads and railways in that area in an emergency.

THE INDIAN TROOPS. 11. It is a recognised trait of the Indian soldier that he can adapt himself to changing climates, armament and environment. He has for instance begun to take to the use of MALAYA slouch hats like those worn by the Australians or Gurkhas instead of his ancient and customary puggarees for jungle work, but his adaptability is perhaps best seen in the enthusiasm and success with which he has taken to mechanisation.

"To see an Indian mechanised platoon", it is reported, "charging over the countryside in Bren gun carriers, retaining excellent formation, dismounting and getting to action stations is an inspiring sight. They are thoroughly at home with modern automatic weapons, Bren guns, Vickers-Berthier guns and Thompson sub-machine guns. As one sees the neatness and speed with which they handle and fire these weapons and, even more, as one observes their alert concentrated expression and disciplined but eager bearing during exercises, one is inclined to feel sorry for any enemy they come up against". One of the American journalists who visited the Indian troops rightly said "those Indian gunners are sure tough guys!"

DEFENCE AGAINST WHOM?!

12. At present the peace that reigns in this area can be disturbed only by the third adherent to the Axis Pact, namely JAPAN. AMERICA and GREAT BRITAIN are vitally interested in the maintenance of peace in the Pacific, and if JAPAN ever makes up her mind to drive to the south in the fulfilment of her ambitious totalitarian idea of establishing a "new order" in the east, with its so-called object of "emancipating" the five hundred million people of ANNAM, COCHIN-CHINA, EAST INDIES, MALAYA, BURMA, INDIA and the PHILLIPPINES, there is bound to be a violent clash. It might not suit her Axis partners' book so well as if she indulged her jingoism by attacking RUSSIA in the north, but that her 'expansionists' may seize the opportunity of the Democracies' distractions elsewhere to thrust south and west cannot be dismissed as unlikely. If she does, she will have a rough passage! There can be no doubt that, in the excellent state of the Imperial defences of the 'Gibraltar of the Indian Ocean,' the Japanese will have a terribly hard nut to crack, while the UNITED STATES have already taken precautions in the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean, and created defensive sea areas and air-space reservations which pointedly mark American reactions to the persistent sabre-rattling of JAPAN. It seems to me that the two great Democracies could not only afford, but might even welcome so grave a departure as an open challenge by Nippon to the prosperity and security of this particular quarter of the globe! There surely are some prudent men among those who guide the destinies of JAPAN at this critical time, on whose ears the determined words of the British Commander-in-chief in the FAR-EAST will not fall in vain. In a recent speech he said, 'We shall never stop improving MALAYA's defences. I am not going to sleep nor shall I let any one else sleep.'

Now Sir Robert Brooke-Popham is a man of action, and in the last five months he has shown what he meant when he uttered those words. We find, for instance, that in February 1941, formations of Blenheim bombers and an Australian air force arrived to guard northern MALAYA, the eastern entrance of SINGAPORE Straits were mined, the largest single convoy ever sent to MALAYA was safely brought in with thousands of Australian troops and full equipment on board, while four-engined Boeing six-thousand mile range bombers have been since flown to MALAYA from the UNITED STATES. Since March 1941 the eastern approaches to SINGAPORE harbour have been closed to shipping, and further reinforcements of the British and Indian army and the Royal Air Force have arrived. In April 1941, large numbers of Brewster Buffalo planes arrived from the UNITED STATES, and considerable extra reinforcements of the Australian Imperial forces. In May 1941, large number of troops again arrived from BRITAIN, and also R. A. F. and Navy reinforcements, while great quantities of war material also arrived from the UNITED STATES under the Lease and Lend Act. Again, the chain of garrisons from the northern frontier to BORNEO has now been completed, while in June 1941 a MALAYA regiment was raised, consisting of local volunteers and defence force which number 30,000. In SINGAPORE alone 13,000 A. R. P. workers have been enlisted. And so work goes on. Surely the hint will not be lost on Japan!

STOP PRESS.

THE SITUATION IN RUSSIA. THE HORIZON CLEARS.

What a difference ten days makes nowadays!

Ten days ago we had to write guardedly, almost pessimistically, so conflicting and confusing were the authoritative views about the Russian Battle. Creeping black snakes on the maps; holocausts of lives lost; elation and depression alternating in both Axis countries and the Democracies; tragic issues completely blurred. All we had to bite on was that the first *Blitzkrieg* had met with *limited* success. The fact that it was limited was the only bright spot. There was no ground for any optimism.

That is why a couple of phrases in a couple of reports from 'neutral' sources in to-day's papers seem to change the whole outlook. Zurich and Stockholm throw a new light on the momentous campaign when they speak of 'stabilisation' and of the Germans 'entrenching themselves'.

They are not phrases which will please Hitler, for they must mean that the second great German push has come to a standstill, and further that parts of their fighting line at least are expecting Russian counter-attacks.

Not that this means that the battle is over, or the Germans defeated—yet. What it does mean is that the world's doubts as to whether the Russian command had evolved any means of coping with the swiftest and heaviest of modern war-machines, are more or less set at rest. They have. They are at least coping with *Blitzkrieg* and *Panzer*-thrusts. If they can only go on doing it for another six or eight weeks, they will have a tremendous ally in 'General Winter.'

During the first phase of the war, the Germans overran the Baltic States and Russian Poland. Russian mobilization was far from complete, their enemies had all the advantages of preparedness and surprise, and they had only to cope with the rather thin line or lines of Russian advanced troops. These fought a fine delaying action, at great cost to themselves (and the enemy) and the solidity of the Russian cause was tested and not found wanting, in its obedience to Stalin's 'scorched earth' policy; but the Germans did make considerable headway towards their objectives.

In the middle of July, they paused for breath. Fresh divisions, mechanised and afoot, were brought up, and by July 20th the second 'shove' had begun, with three great thrusts intended to carry them irresistibly over the five or six hundred miles separating them from the important Russian centres of Leningrad, Moscow and Kiev. Russian mobilization must have been still far from complete, but by this time enormous forces marched and met on the three main fronts, the Germans still making headway, though very much slower, but pretending to comfort themselves with the hope that 'Russia had now thrown in her last reserves.' The Stalin Line would be overrun in a week; and pincer movements would seize Leningrad and immobilize the Russian fleet, seize Kiev and Sebastopol, and garner the whole wealth of the Ukraine, seize Moscow and disintegrate the Soviet Government.

The threat was very grave. Stalin sent his three best Generals, Voroshiloff, Timoshenko and Budenny, to the three main danger-points—and for ten days the German advance became slower and slower, until to-day it really looks as though their impetus has expended itself, and that they will have to 'take another breath', while precious time slips underneath their feet! As far as we can see, the Germans are not within 150 miles of Leningrad yet, nor within 200 miles of Moscow, nor within 80 miles of Kiev—yet the impending fall of both the first and the last was confidently announced in Berlin over a week ago. Their communications have lengthened, and their supply difficulties are increased by the Russian genius for guerilla warfare in territories

supposed to be 'taken'. The great strength of the *Luftwaffe* has not been enough to drive the Russian air force from the air, and now that at least a large and picked proportion of it has had to be transferred to meet the terrific sweeps and raids of the R. A. F. over Germany and occupied North Sea countries, Russian rather than German domination of the air looks the more probable.

Why? Where did we all go wrong before? If Russia can hold up Germany, why could not France? We suggest these answers.

1. First, the Russian terrain is not like the French terrain. Towns and cities in Russia are much sparser, its roads fewer and its spaces much wider. The fall of a city does not immediately imperil a neighbour city; the roads between them and behind them are not immediately encumbered and well-nigh blocked with all the impediments of a refugee population. Nor is there a supply of petrol-pumps, workshops, and other prizes of war every few miles along the Russian roads?

2. Second, the despatch of Russia's three greatest soldiers with independent commands (except, we suppose, that their armies should retreat if necessary, rather than lose touch with each other) meant a flexibility of defence that was invaluable. They were not tied down to holding any particular locality. They just had to fight and march until winter should set in.

3. The third reason is that the Stalin Line was no Maginot line, that could be, and was, turned from a flank. It seems to be a vague but gigantic defence in depth—hundreds of miles of depth. The Russians expected and were not dismayed by the inevitable early advances of the Germans; they merely withdrew, to give almost as good as they got on another line of positions, be that line straight, or semi-circular, or zig zag, increasing the enemies lines of communications and supply difficulties, which naturally prove cumulative the further they go.

4. The fourth reason, as we see it, is that in circumstances such as these, the Germans were more than ever bound to rely on speed. They must move forward at all costs (the costs being over a million men by now, at least) or else acknowledge defeat. In their attempt to do so, they must constantly throw their Panzer corps forward, constantly meet fresh Russian mechanized forces with shorter supply lines, and as constantly get hung up, further and further away from their bases.

Such is our amateur view of the strategy with which the Russians have exhausted the second great German thrust. If they can deal as faithfully with the next one, even if they lose all the cities in ten thousand square miles of territory, the campaign from the German point of view will be a fiasco.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

24—7—41 to 30—7—41.

JAPANESE AGGRESSION.

The Joint Defence Pact.—We live in days of pacts—pacts incessantly signed by the Axis agents and as incessantly broken; but never was a farce of a pact enacted so ingloriously as the Joint Defence Pact which VICHY concluded with JAPAN on Wednesday, recognising JAPAN's leadership in the FAR-EAST and her right to maintain order in this region. By this shameful act VICHY, admitting her impotence, while keeping up the pretence of continued sovereignty over French INDO-CHINA, has sought an 'alliance' with JAPAN in the name of 'realistic considerations', by which is meant an imaginary British threat. Thus JAPAN, committing her latest act of banditry on South French INDO-CHINA, has occupied air and naval bases there, including CAMRANH Bay and SAIGON, and landed a large body of troops. The air-bases are reported to be eight in number, and the troops are estimated at 40,000. While the British threat is a pure invention, the miserable plight of VICHY, her present humiliation and degradation, are the best proofs of the 'blessings' that await all Axis co-partners. There can be no clearer proof of VICHY's present demented condition and collapse, than the present spectacle of enslaved VICHY signing such degrading documents to BERLIN's dictation.

British Attitude.—Be it remembered that far from entertaining any idea of encroaching upon FRANCE in the FAR-EAST, BRITAIN had consistently tried her best till now to keep the peace of the Pacific, and the U. S. had been directly supplying oil to JAPAN, to avoid complications in the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES. Further, recently the A. B. C. D. (AMERICA, BRITAIN, CHINA, DUTCH EAST INDIES) front expressed its willingness to defend INDO-CHINA from encroachments; but the offer was simply ignored by VICHY under pressure from BERLIN.

Japan's intentions.—On the other hand, JAPAN's aggressive intentions had long been apparent. It was MANCHURIA in 1931, NORTH CHINA in 1932—37; CANTON and SOUTH CHINA in 1938, HAINON in 1939, TONGKING in 1940, and now, it is SAIGON in 1941.

Japanese Cunning.—The present act of JAPAN is no doubt a cunning move on the part of the Konoye Cabinet, deserving, as the *Daily Telegraph* puts it, of 'Congratulation'. Prince Konoye has chosen the line of least resistance. While seizing coveted territory, he has technically avoided an open conflict with BRITAIN or the UNITED STATES. He has also not entered the European conflict.

Japan's ulterior Designs.—But it requires no prophet to interpret JAPAN's real and ultimate intentions. The present sinister move is really to secure jumping off places for further aggression. In the words of the *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, 'let there be no mumbo-jumbo about it'. It is a threat to the PHILLIPPINES, to MALAYA, BORNEO, the NETHERLAND INDIES. But the danger is as yet potential rather than immediate SAIGON is 600 miles from SINGAPORE, 750 miles from BORNEO and 900 miles from RANGOON. CAMRANH is rather an 'empty prize', as its harbours are navigable at present only for small cruisers.

Economic warfare on Japan: (*a*) **the U. S.**—In these circumstances an economic warfare rather than any military action is the only course now open to the Democracies. Before the outbreak of the present war JAPAN was the world's third largest customer of American merchandise, and quick as thought the U. S. has frozen all Japanese assets amounting approximately to 131 million dollars, and affecting some 60 to 70 thousand Japanese nationals. Japanese silk trade with the U. S. amounting to 50 million dollars will be seriously affected. The U. S. Government has also invited all other American countries to take similar steps, and to prevent war materials from reaching JAPAN. As a measure of precaution President Roosevelt has further called the American Army at HAWAII to the alert, and taken over the army in the PHILLIPPINES. Unconfirmed messages report that the U. S. Pacific Fleet has sailed from HAWAII.

(*b*) **Britain**.—Adopting parallel action, BRITAIN and the British Empire have also frozen Japanese assets, and BRITAIN has additionally given notice of her intention to denounce the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of 1911, the INDIA-JAPAN Commercial Convention of 1934 and the BURMA-JAPAN Commercial Convention of 1937.

Both BRITAIN and the U. S. have frozen *the Chinese assets* also, for the reason that JAPAN has control of certain parts of CHINA, and if Chinese assets were not also frozen there would be a loophole for JAPAN to continue her trade with the Democracies through CHINA.

(*c*) **By Netherlands.**—Foreign exchange operations between the NETHERLANDS and JAPAN will be suspended, and special licences will be required to export goods to JAPAN. NETHERLANDS banks can negotiate with Japanese nationals only under special permit.

Japanese retaliation.—In retaliation JAPAN has frozen all British, UNITED STATES and Dutch assets.

Economic cordon.—Thus an economic cordon has been drawn round JAPAN, and hereafter she can trade only in her own 'co-prosperity area' and deal only with a few South-American markets.

If JAPAN's mischief moves further, the Democracies are ready with other measures to meet it.

Thailand.—TOKYO has started a radio campaign of fresh vilification of BRITAIN, to the effect that British troops are moving towards the THAI frontier, that British warships patrol THAI waters, and strong Anglo-Saxon pressure is being exerted on THAI. It looks as if these groundless rumours are spread in accordance with the usual Axis tactics, as a prelude to Japanese demands for bases on THAI. The British attitude, which has always been 'frank', as THAI herself admits, is governed by last year's treaty of Non-Aggression. She does not wish any rights or privileges denied to others. The BANGKOK radio has expressed complete confidence in BRITAIN, and stated also that either economically or strategically there was no reason for BRITAIN to threaten THAI.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR.

Second Blitz a Wash-out.—The Germans have entered on the 6th week of this conflict without appreciable results. Their armies are stuck up before SMOLENSK, and the second *Blitz* has proved a wash-out, without any sign of a third offensive in preparation. It looks as though the German *Blitz* has been mastered in a way by the Russians on land, even as the aerial *Blitz* was countered last year over BRITAIN. Far from the Russian reserves having become exhausted, fresh re-inforcements are arriving from the Urals, and the German infantry baffled and halted is preparing to dig itself in for trench warfare—a thing most hated by the German soldier. And winter is coming. What would trench life be in Russian cold!

A War of Horror.—Already as a German soldier has confessed, the war is proving a 'huge horror' to the Germans. "Endless columns

of heavily laden soldiers march gasping and cursing through a nightmare of endless forest. There are no roads, no communications, no lorries, no motor cycles.

'Only the absolute essentials of equipment are carried, overcoats and blankets being left behind, although the nights are terribly cold and damp.

'The days are frightfully hot, while millions of torturing mosquitoes swarm round the labouring soldiers' heads.

'Often the soldiers wade knee-deep through black swamps.

'These forests provide the best cover for the Russians, for the Germans cannot see the enemy. As soon as the Germans enter a forest they meet a withering fire from the Russians in the trees, here, there and everywhere

'The Soviet forts constructed as parts of the landscape are so well camouflaged that they are easily overlooked. The ground in front is sown with mines.'

Moscow Raids.—To cover the failure of the *Blitz*, the Germans are reporting successive raids on Moscow while hardly any German machine has found its way to the city. Evidently it is intended to dupe the German public, avid for victories and disgusted with the present slowness of operations.

Hitler's Huge Mistake.—It is now becoming increasingly clear that in entering upon this war Hitler has made the mistake of his life. In his belated attempt to humour the Hess group, and secure an easy popularity by leading an anti-Bolshevik 'crusade', he overrode the advice of his best generals, and has become trapped by increasing Anglo-Saxon determination and unexpected Soviet resistance. The vaunted *Luftwaffe* has become shaky, battered on two fronts. In trespassing upon RUSSIA he has killed the 'goose that had been laying the golden eggs', that is, has lost huge supplies from and through RUSSIA. The arms factories of RUSSIA lie in the Urals beyond his reach. Oil and petrol reserves are being broached while PLOESTI is a heap of ruins. Dr. Schacht is warning his contrymen of impending inflation. The German war chiefs have quarelled. Messerschmit, the famous inventor of the plane of his name is reported to have been arrested, and Professor Karl Haushofer, described as Hitler's 'master mind', and the father of the Labensraum ('Living space') theory, and General Ernst Udet,

Quarter-master of the *Luftwaffe*, to have committed suicide; while Georing's disgrace and replacement by Milch have become a much-talked of affair.

German Lying Propaganda.—As the war advances, the blatant falsity of the Axis propaganda is becoming increasingly clear. On June 26, within four days of the German invasion Dr. Goebbels glibly wrote 'the Soviet army has already been defeated', and ROME repeating its master's voice added, 'the Russian air force has been practically destroyed' and 'the German advance will now be practically unopposed.' On July 13 it was reported that 'the Stalin Line had been pierced at all decisive points and the interior of the Soviet lay open' and ROME chimed in, saying that 'the Russian army had ceased to exist'. On July 21 a German broadcast announced that the capture of LENINGRAD was only 'a question of days'. But now M. Lozovsky ridicules the German asseveration that LENINGRAD has been encircled, and Nazis themselves admit that owing to failure to break through to Moscow they are diverting their aims on KIEV.

According to the latest reports (Moscow—July 30) heavy fighting continues in the NOVORJEV, NAVEL, SMOLENSK and JITOMIR directions.

WAR AT SEA.

British Convoy goes through.—A thrilling story is told of a three-day naval operation in the Central Mediterranean, establishing once more British supremacy in *Italy's Mare nostrum*. A British convoy, carrying vital reinforcements and munitions, was sighted by the enemy on July 22 in the narrows between SICILY and the Libyan coast. Enemy bombers and torpedo-carriers dived to the attack, while British fighters from the *Ark Royal* 'tore into the raiders'. At the end of a three-day action the operations resulted in the successful passage of the convoy, with the loss of destroyer *Fearless* to BRITAIN, and with considerable losses to the enemy air force.

The British Command of the Mediterranean is further borne out by two other occurrences of the week; one being that at the same moment at which the British convoy was attacked near SICILY—three out of four ships convoyed by Italy were sunk in neighbouring waters, and the other that an Italian naval raid on VALETTA ended in the total annihilation of the attacking force, even before it could enter the harbour.

The Battle of the Atlantic.—The worst of the Battle of the Atlantic would seem to be over. According to the Canadian Minister of Munition 'June and July have been the best months for the number of ships reaching BRITAIN!' Mr. Harry Hopkins' LONDON broadcast of July 27 is a cheering message. He said :—

'To-day the Atlantic is merely a channel. The bridge of friendship spans it. The bridge of sympathy and admiration extends from WASHINGTON to LONDON, and although unseen it is so strong that all the powers of darkness and Nazi terrorism cannot destroy it ....'

'At one time you received messages of goodwill from AMERICA The President realised that that was not enough. He realised that sympathy is humane, but that a flying fortress can drop more bombs. He knew that admiration was pleasing, but that a destroyer could drop depth charges. The Lease and Lend Bill was the answer putting our admiration and sympathies into tangible form, and providing a weapon against the tyrant—against the man who would enslave our Democracies.'

'To-day, American-made tanks are caterpillaring the sands of the Western Desert. To-day, every kind of American-made aeroplanes are roaring into combat wherever the *Luftwaffe* shows fight ......'

'We have not neglected the question of food. AMERICA will never allow the British people to go hungry. AMERICA has decided to decrease her consumption of food and increase production. During the next 12 months huge quantities of cheese, pork, eggs, canned salmon, raisins, evaporated milk and concentrated fruit juice will arrive...........'

'Mr. Churchill has asked for tools. I promise you they are coming An endless assembly belt stretches from our eastern coast to BRITAIN and to the MIDDLE EAST. The enormous amount of war material now *en route* will reach here safely. President Roosevelt has promised that he will take steps to ensure the delivery of goods consigned to BRITAIN. President Roosevelt does not give his word lightly. People of BRITAIN, people of the British Commonwealth—you are not fighting alone.'

AIR RAIDS.

The heaviest R. A. F. attacks of the week were over LA PALLICE where the *Scharnhorst* is hiding, over BREST where the *Gneisenau* is sheltering, and BERLIN where some of the heaviest and most powerful bombs were dropped on 25th; the other targets being FRANKFURT, and MANNHEIM, invaded in spite of thunderstorms. HAMBURG and HANOVER.

NAZI ESPIONAGE IN LATIN AMERICA.

No matter how far removed from BERLIN, no country, unless wide awake, can escape Nazi infiltration and espionage. There is evidence of wide-spread Nazi conspiracy in Central and South AMERICA. Trouble has been brewing in BRAZIL, COLUMBIA, MEXICO, PANAMA, URUGUAY, GAUTEMALA, HONDURAS and SAN SALVADOR. In BOLIVIA, recently, an attempted putsch resulted in the expulsion of the German Minister there. Rashid Ali's machinations in IRAQ are suspected to be connected with the Bolivian affair. CHILI has also ejected the same German minister. In SAN JOSE (COSTA RICA) an anti-Nazi front has been formed to check subversive activities.

MR. CHURCHILL'S SIX POINTS FOR OPTIMISM.

Speaking, during a debate in the House of Commons on July 29, Mr. Churchill enumerated six points for optimism, for the success of the Allied cause. He said:—

" When I look on the whole tumultuous scene of this ever-widening war, I think it is my duty to give a serious warning to the House and the country to be on guard equally against pessimism and against optimism. There are no doubt temptations to optimism.

1. " It is a fact that mighty RUSSIA, so thoroughly and treacherously assaulted, has struck back with such magnificent strength and courage, and brought prodigious and well-deserved slaughter on the Nazi armies.

2. " The United States, the greatest single power, is giving us aid on a gigantic scale, and is advancing in rising wrath to the very verge of war.

3. " It is a fact that German air superiority has been broken, and air attacks on this country for the time being have almost ceased.

4. " It is a fact that the Battle of the Atlantic, although far from being won, is, partly from American intervention, moving progressively in our favour.

5. " It is a fact that the Nile valley is much safer than twelve or even three months ago.

6. " It is a fact that the enemy has lost his pretence of theme and doctrine, and has sunk even deeper in moral and intellectual degradation and bankruptcy; that almost all his conquests have proved burdens and worse ".

R. A. F. and Russian Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied Territories.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
21—7—41. (Monday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	A factory at LILLE ...	3 day-fighters.	...
	Enemy shipping off the FRENCH Coast.	...	8 day-fighters.
NIGHT :—			
	Industrial targets and communications at FRANKFURT and MANNHEIM.	...	Heavily damaged.
	Aerodromes in Northern FRANCE ...	1 night-bomber.	Damaged.
	German military camps on DENMARK Coast.		
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	Enemy positions outside TOBRUK ...	...	...
	(By Russian planes.)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy motorised vehicles and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.	8 planes.	32 planes.
22—7—41. (Tuesday).			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
DAY :—			
	Shipbuilding yards at LE TRAIT on the SEINE.	...	Big fires started.
	Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.	3 day-fighters.	4 day-fighters.
NIGHT :—			
	Enemy industries in FRANKFURT and MANNHEIM.	...	Heavily damaged.
	Several other industrial districts in Western GERMANY.	...	...
	The docks at DUNKIRK, ROTTERDAM and OSTEND.	...	Damaged.
	Enemy aerodromes in Northern FRANCE.	No loss.	...

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
22—7—41. (Tuesday)—*cont.*			
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	An enemy convoy (4 ships) off the Italian Island of PANTELLERIA.	No loss.	2 vessels sunk and one more hit. The remaining tanker also sunk in a subsequent attack.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.	No loss.	Explosions started.
	(By Russian planes.)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy mechanised forces along the entire front.	...	...
	Aircraft on enemy aerodromes ...	17 planes.	39 planes.
23—7—41. (Wednesday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	MORNING :—		
	Enemy shipping off the coast of FRANCE and the low countries.	...	1 vessel sunk.
	AFTERNOON :—		
	Military objectives near ST. OMER ...	...	...
	Enemy shipping off the FRENCH Coast.	...	1 ship damaged.
	Aerial encounters over FRANCE ...	5 day-bombers and 5 day-fighters.	5 day-fighters.
	EVENING :—		
	Military objectives near BETHUNE ...	5 day-fighters.	6 day-fighters.
	NIGHT :—		
	Industrial objectives in the cities of FRANKFURT and MANNHEIM.	...	Big fires started.
	The docks at LE HAVRE and OSTEND.	...	...
	SICILY.		
	Enemy shipping at TRAPANI ...	...	1 vessel sunk.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
23—7—41.	**(Wednesday.)**—*cont.*		
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	...	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	An enemy E-boat in the MEDITERRANEAN.	...	Sunk.
	(By Russian Planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy positions and motorised units along the front.	19 planes.	58 planes.
	FINLAND.		
	Surroundings of TURKU ...	...	...
	BULGARIA.		
	RUSCUK, PLEVEN and **LOVETZ** ...	...	Damaged.
24—7—41.	**(Thursday.)**		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
	DAY :—		
	The German warship GNEISENAU and the docks at BREST.	...	Hit seven times. Docks damaged.
	The German warship SCHARNHORST at LA PALLICE.	...	Docks heavily damaged
	The port of CHERBOURG ...	15 day-bombers.	21 day-fighters.
	The Railway yards at HAZEBROUCK.	7 day-fighters.	...
	Aerial fights over the whole way ...	...	12 fighters.
	NIGHT :—		
	The naval bases and ship building yards at KIEL and EMDEN.	...	Large fires started. Heavily damaged.
	Military objectives at WILHELMSHAVEN.	...	...
	The docks at ROTTERDAM ...	...	...
	Enemy airfields in Northern FRANCE	5 planes.	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	...	...
	(By Russian Planes.)		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy troops and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire front.	...	47 planes.
	An enemy convoy in the BALTIC ...	...	10 ships sunk.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
25—7—41. (Friday).			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
NIGHT :—			
	BERLIN (capital of GERMANY) ...	... 9 night-bombers.	Very heavily damaged.
	Industries, docks and communications at HANOVER and HAMBURG **Aerodromes** in Northern FRANCE.		... Damaged.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHZI	...	...
	(By Russian Planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy mechanised units, troops and aircraft along the whole front.	...	...
26—7—41. (Saturday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
MORNING :—			
	The Naval Base at EMDEN. **Offensive patrols** over the French coast. **An enemy patrol vessel** off BOULOGNE.	No loss.	1 day-fighter. Machine-gunned.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	E-boats attacking VALETTA harbour in MALTA.	1 day-fighter but the pilot is safe.	9 E-boats and 8 torpedo boats destroyed. 3 planes.
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	No loss.	...
	(By the Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy mechanised units and aerodromes along the entire battle area.	36 planes.	109 planes.
27—7—41. (Sunday.)			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.		
AFTERNOON :—			
	Offensive sweeps over the straits of DOVER.	1 plane.	1 plane; Many others damaged.

Date.	Targets.	R. A. F. and Allied losses.	Enemy aircraft losses and results of air bombardment.
27—7—41.	**(Sunday.)**—*cont.*		
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.—*cont.*		
NIGHT :—			
	The docks at DUNKIRK. **Enemy aerodromes** in northern FRANCE.	1 night-bomber.	...
	ITALIAN AFRICA.		
	The harbour at BENGHAZI ...	No loss.	Damaged.
	(By Russian planes).		
	EASTERN FRONT.		
	Enemy motorised units along the whole fighting sector.	...	...

ENEMY Air Raids over BRITAIN, BRITISH Territories and RUSSIA.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air losses and results of air bombardment.
22—7—41.	**(Tuesday.)**		
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	Two towns on the East Coast of ENGLAND. North-east coastal area.	...	Slight damage and no casualties.
	A convoy off the English coast ...	1 plane.	No damage to any ship.
	EGYPT.		
	SUEZ Canal area ...	...	Slightly damaged.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	15 planes.	Houses set on fire. Only slight damage.
	Aerial fights throughout day and night.	87 planes.	14 planes.
23—7—41.	**(Wednesday.)**		
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	A few places in North-west of ENGLAND and SCOTLAND.	3 Night-bombers.	Little damage. No loss.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	...	...

Date.	Targets.	Enemy aircraft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air losses and results of air bombardment.
24—7—41. (Thursday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	One point on the East Coast of ENGLAND.	...	No damage or casualties.
	DUNDALK (EIRE) ...	...	Slight damage.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW ...	Only one plane got through the defences. It was also shot down.	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
MORNING :—			
	MALTA ...	2 bombers.	...
NIGHT :—			
	MALTA ...	1 bomber damaged.	...
25—7—41. (Friday.)			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	No air activity to-day ...	...	...
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA ...	5 planes.	No damage.
	A British convoy in the MEDITERRANEAN.	12 planes. 4 planes damaged.	3 Naval aircraft.
26—7—41. (Saturday).			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT :—			
	One place on the SUFFOLK coast ...	...	No damage or casualties.
	EGYPT.		
	ALEXANDRIA	...	Slight damage to property ; no casualties.
	RUSSIA.		
	MOSCOW	8 planes.	Only a few houses damaged.

Date.	Targets.	Enemy air-craft losses.	R.A.F. and Allied Air losses and results of air bombardment.
27—7—41. (Sunday.)	**BRITAIN.**		
NIGHT :—			
	LONDON and **a few other places** in South-east ENGLAND.	3 planes	Slight damage and a few casualties.
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
	MALTA	2 bombers.	No loss.
28—7—41. (Monday.)	**BRITAIN.**		
NIGHT :—			
	Three points in East ANGLIA ...	...	Small number of people injured and only slight damage.
	RUSSIA.		
	Moscow	9 planes.	...

Correction—In Aero-Statistics in Bulletin No. 52, change the existing figures into :—

Page.	Date.	R. A. F.	Enemy.
33	3—7—41 Day	14 planes	12 planes.
34	4—7—41 Night	14 planes	18 planes.
36	6—7—41 „	...	1 plane.
37	2—7—41	...	...
37	3—7—41	...	1 plane.
37	4—7—41	...	3 planes.
37	5—7—41	...	2 planes.

SIDE LIGHTS.

THIS 'V' BUSINESS. To many the continental—and now world-wide–'V' campaign must sound rather childish—like making odd noises in the dark to frighten children. But the psychology experts among the Propaganda authorities must know what they are doing, because the campaign is undoubtedly producing a moral effect, to the extent of prompting the Germans to exact savage punishments when culprits are detected. I suppose it would get on the nerves of even a Gestapo chief who

happened to be travelling round the German 'continent' inspecting his amiable force, to see in one place a German sentry come off duty with a large 'V' chalked on his back; and in the next to find the same symbol traced in the dust on the bonnet of his own car. He might perhaps decide to round off a day's work with a dinner in some café fifty miles away, and hear as he entered a fork tapping the Morse sign for 'V' on a table, and then, sending for the proprietor to whistle up some Gestapo men to investigate, hear the blast blown with 'three shorts and a long'. No, there is something in it when a million odd apparently dutiful people take every clandestine opportunity for sounding or writing or printing the now universal symbol of hope and confidence in the Victory of Democracy over a loathed enemy, whose only counter is to copy it and say it stands for '*Viktoria*', when there is a perfectly good German word for Victory, viz., "*Sieg*".

* * * *

LUFTWAFFE IN THE TOILS. Without over-optimism, we may really take heart from certain features of the Air war disclosed by the Radio during the last few days. The principal form of assistance to our new Allies, the Russians, has so far been a great intensification of bombing in Occupied FRANCE and western GERMANY. Splendid effects were achieved at comparatively small cost to the R. A. F. in the first fortnight, the Huns having apparently transferred large air reinforcements eastwards to make certain of a successful *blitzkrieg*. R. A. F. reports over the last ten days however suggest that considerable fighter strength has had to be retransferred to French aerodromes, in order to strengthen the German defence against our persistent, daring and successful attacks. In other words, a total toll of 7,500 Axis planes, plus our unremitting bombing of every vital munition centre factory and workshop within our reach, HAS begun to tell. Even if Hitler's armies still hope to avoid having to fight on two fronts simultaneously, Goering's *Luftwaffe* is definitely having to do it, and has neither the men nor the machines to make a victorious job of either. And every month, every week, almost every day increases the odds against them. No wonder there are constant reports that Hermann Goering (or his successor ?!) is getting nervous about his darling, his irresistible Armada of the air, for its measure has been taken.

THE BIG BATTLE. Captain Cyril Falls is an authoritative commentator on military problems. We are rather pleased therefore to gain support from his broadcast of just a week ago for our cautious view of the situation in RUSSIA. "One of the greatest campaigns in the whole history of warfare," he said then, "is now coming to the end of its fourth week ...... I wish I could say that I thought the sting had already been taken out of the German attack, but I very decidedly do

not." Admitting that they had lost a great number of men, and that a campaign of nearly a month must have imposed a heavy strain on them, besides being below the standard of *blitzkrieg*, he suggested that the Germans had made such deep advances into RUSSIA as to put some very important objectives in very grave peril, among which he ranked the thrust towards LENINGRAD as the most important. "I am talking," he went on, "of the offensive from ESTHONIA ...... This threat is all the more acute because the Finns are exercising strong pressure on the Karelian Isthmus, and .... the Russian counter-attack has not yet extinguished the danger...... LENINGRAD'S significance is as follows:—KRONSTADT, close by, is the base of the Russian Baltic fleet. The other bases, TALLINN and HANGO, in FINLAND, are closely beleaguered .... The Russian fleet is strong enough to be mistress of the Baltic, but ..... if it could be put out of action by the capture of LENINGRAD, the Baltic would become a German lake. This might also have an important effect on the land fighting, because the enemy might establish a big advance base at LENINGRAD, which he could supply by sea better than he can now supply his forces along his land communications ...... I believe that the Russians stand in very serious peril. But," he concluded, "I do want to emphasise that this is a campaign where there is no means of winning victory except by completely crushing the enemy in the open field. No other campaign in this war was fought under such conditions. So long as the Russians fight and have a will to go on fighting, there will be no decisive victory for the Germans. There is no cutting through to a DUNKIRK, or a TRONDHJEM or a SALONIKA or an ATHENS. Victory must be won in the open field. And what a field!"

* * * * *

Well, another week has gone, and, as far as we can judge, gone well for the Russians. SMOLENSK, then alleged to have been taken by the Germans, is now reported still in Russian hands. The Finns in the far north have apparently made no progress. The enemy is still some 80 miles away from KIEV, the UKRAINE capital—and there are stories of resignations among the German High Command, notably of Von Brauschitz and Keitel. The maps still show long black arrows leading from POLAND and RUMANIA marking the German advances, but the arrow-heads have grown little more menacing—in fact it seems safe to say that the second great bound of the invaders has *not* carried them to their objectives. The Russians still fight, and show the will to fight, and this battle has got to be won in the open field. Loss of territory is a minor consideration, provided the three main Russian armies can be kept in being as fighting units. So far as we can see, the Russian military staff has not lost cohesion, while the political leadership in MOSCOW has been unfaltering.

DR. GOEBBELS IN THE TOILS. When things are not going well for the Germans Dr. Goebbels has a hard life explaining away unpalatable facts. Stalin's 'scorched earth' policy is merely one of the things which have tripped up the unspeakable Doktor lately. "Not a single locomotive," said Stalin, "not a single coach, not a single kilogram of bread, not a litre of fuel must be left for the enemy..............unbearable conditions must be created for them. They must be pursued and destroyed at every step." The fidelity with which these Draconian instructions are being carried out appears as embarrassing for the BERLIN Propaganda Office as for the German armies themselves. Thus.................

Goebbels' first reaction was to use it as an item in his "Russian atrocity" programme. On July 5th, for instance he singled out plundered and hungry HOLLAND as the place to broadcast that Stalin's heartless policy has resulted in "food-stuffs worth several hundred millions" being destroyed.

In case, however, this should sound to some Axis supporters to be rather defeatist, BELGIUM was told next day that "the Bolshevists have been unable to destroy the harvests in their precipitate retreat." The other side of EUROPE was treated with the same truthful consistency! HUNGARY, for instance, heard that the UKRAINE crops were being burnt, two days later that they were safe, and the next day that they were completely destroyed!

What however is certain is that the Germans dislike Stalin's policy very much indeed, and cannot keep their feelings out of their own press. "*Angriff*" for instance, is illuminating, in its issue of July 12th. "Everyone had been looking forward to a halt at MINSK, but all they found was smoking ruins, and snipers lurking behind every hiding-place." ROME Radio, on July 20th, announced indignantly that KISHINEV (BESSARABIA) had been blazing for three days, despite the Rumanian soldiers' efforts to subdue the flames. "The Russians set fire to every house in the city", it moaned. On the same date the Italian paper "*Tribuna*" published a Zurich message that " SMOLENSK was heavily damaged", and that in KARELIA the Russians have "literally razed towns to the ground". Nothing remains, says the "*Tribuna*", of the great Siemens-Martin works at VAERTSILAO. Ruthlessness does not seem to be a private perquisite of the Reichswehr. An enormous peasant population, passionately attached to their own soil, are fighting for every inch of it and "scorching" every inch before they are compelled to leave it.

THE HUN'S ACHILLES TENDON. It has very often been said that psychology is the weak spot in the German's make-up, and that in every crisis he can be trusted to spoil his own wicket somehow. This "Holy War" propaganda policy is surely one such example.

Hitler undoubtedly banked on a "war against Bolshevism" as a really saleable commodity, with the following advantages to accrue:—

(*a*) Confusion of thought and division of purpose in AMERICA and in BRITAIN to so paralysing an extent that either a war or a peace offensive would be successful.

(*b*) 'Occupied' and 'neutral' countries would then see the disintegrating effects of "Bolshevism", as compared with the solidity of Hitler's "crusade"

(*c*) Anti-Government parties in RUSSIA itself, e. g., the Orthodox Church, or the Ukrainian nationalists, would be encouraged to assist the invaders. "Leaders of the Russian churches," said a German broadcast on July 12th, "raise your heads. The day of spiritual resurrection is near. Do not listen to the betrayers of the Orthodox Church!"

Full of hope, therefore, Hitler hawked his nostrum round. See its reception!

In BRITAIN, so immediate was Mr. Churchill's, the Press's and the public's welcome to RUSSIA as an Ally, that the German radio has to announce (July 16) that "the plutocratic upper class of ENGLAND has for years been a fan of Bolshevism"!!!

In AMERICA, a Gallup poll discloses that 72% of Americans want RUSSIA to win, and American forces occupy ICELAND just to show their solidarity with BRITAIN.

In SPAIN, there was a much-trumpeted decision to send volunteers to fight against RUSSIA. A detachment did go, but volunteers were insufficient, and had to be replaced by regulars!

In RUSSIA, the only mention of the Ukrainian nationalists has been in connection with atrocities committed against the German troops, while the whole world is aware of the intensely patriotic stand taken by the Orthodox Church. Finally, by his egregious selection of a "pro-Christian" rather than a purely "anti-Bolshevist" banner Hitler may have blotted his copybook in the Middle Eastern countries. Distrust of Communism might have gone fairly well in say, TURKEY, or IRAN or even EGYPT, but "crusade" seems to us to be rather a bad slip to make in these regions. As to the rest of the world—even in GERMANY itself and certainly in many an 'occupied' country—it must have been not merely a case of lips curling in derision, but of loud and mocking laughter when the German broadcast of July 16, was heard. "The Axis is the spiritual representative of that part of the world which believes in God, morals, honour and the family"!! Truly, "one touch of Hitler makes the whole world grin"!

WHY HITLER HAS INVADED RUSSIA?

HOW WILL SOVIET ARMY FARE?

FACTORS WHICH MAY NOT FAVOUR GERMANY.

by

Wickham Steed (In a recent B. B. C. Talk).

TO-DAY the thing that is uppermost in everybody's mind is the German attack on Russia. Like every careful reader of Hitler's revealing book 'Mein Kampf' I have always thought that Hitler meant to smash Russia either before or after the smashing of France and, if possible, of Britain.

But I was not sure in which direction he would strike first. How could one be sure? The old dilemma, whether to begin the European war by striking in the East or in the West, has worried German soldiers since the beginning of the century at the latest. And it is a great mistake to look upon Hitler and Hitlerism as anything more than a revised and enlarged edition of the old pan-German dream of dominating the world.

Except in point of consistent villainy and thoroughgoing wickedness Hitler has invented nothing. He has merely brought German barbarism up to date.

On the closing pages of 'Mein Kampf' Hitler wrote what he called a political testament. It begins as follows: "The political testament of the German nation for its action abroad shall and must always be never to allow a second continental power to exist in Europe. Look upon any and every attempt to organise a second military power on the German borders, be it only in the form of setting up a state capable of becoming a military power, as an attack upon Germany, and see in it not only the right but the duty to prevent the creation of such a state by every means including armed force, or, if such a state has already arisen, to smash it to bits."

This was published in 1927. Every statesman who has had dealings with Hitler ought to have learnt it by heart. In the light of it we can see the full meaning of the most instructive passages in the statement of Hitler's reasons for attacking Russia which Goebbels broadcast for him on June 22.

After pretending untruthfully that there had been Anglo-Russian co-operation against Germany, Hitler's Goebbels said that the result had been the tying up of such powerful German forces in the east that the radical conclusion of the war in the west, particularly as regards aircraft, could no longer be vouched for by the German High Command.

Unless Hitler has reduced his own people to a condition of complete ignorance and stupidity, they must have seen in this passage a confession that Germany has been thwarted hitherto by Britain in the west and that, contrary to all the assurances of Hitler and Goebbels, British resistance is not and cannot yet be overcome; and that neither the battle of Britain nor the efforts of German night bombers to destroy British cities and industrial centres, nor the battle of the Atlantic have brought or are bringing victory to Germany.

This victory, which was to have been celebrated and crowned by Hitler's triumphal entry into London on August 15, 1940, is now postponed until Germany shall have destroyed the power of Russia.

If I were a German, and had retained any faculty for independent reasoning, I should have been terribly disappointed by this confession of German failure. As I happen not to be a German, I find the confession encouraging, and as I do not think we ought to swallow uncritically the Hitler and Goebbels version of the reasons for the German attack on Russia, I am not at all sure that the attack would help Hitler to reach a radical conclusion of the war in the west.

The German people may of course swallow the Hitler-Goebbels version of things, but if I were a German I should ask myself whether the task of subduing Russia is really likely to strengthen Germany's military position, and pending the outcome of the struggle, I should not feel able to find a completely satisfactory answer.

This brings me to the crucial point. What are the chances that Russia can withstand for any length of time the terrific onslaught of German aircraft, tanks, motorised divisions and shock troops? Frankly, I do not know and cannot guess. All I can do is to weigh in my own mind and in the light of such general information as I possess the factors that tell in the favour of stout Russian resistance.

Not all these factors are peculiar to the Russia of to-day, or, at any rate, those of them that are peculiar to the Russia of to-day seem to add to the difficulty of the German task.

Some years ago I met in Vienna a distinguished Russian officer who had fought through the disastrous war of 1904 and 1905 against Japan. He said that the Russian army had been beaten by the superior education of the Japanese troops, all of whom were able to read, to write and to draw. At least 75 per cent of the Russian peasant soldiers were, on the other hand, unable to read or write.

He added: "If we ever become involved in a great European war before we have educated our people, we shall again be beaten."

He saw clearly when Russia entered the war against Germany in 1914 that very little had been done to improve the standard of education of her army. These were besides such serious gaps in armament and equipment that Russian soldiers in the trenches had sometimes to wait till one of their comrades had been killed in order to use the dead man's rifle.

Yet in the first two years of that war Russian resistance was heroically stubborn. An Austro-Hungarian staff officer, who fought against Russia in that war, told me the other day that though the Austro-Hungarian Army was in almost every respect superior to the Russian, the greatest difficulty was found in overcoming the obstinate and resourceful resistance of the Russian infantry, and that when the Russians were compelled to retreat they left behind them a country so utterly devastated that the Austro-Hungarian regiments might as well have been advancing through a desert.

If in this war, he added, the Germans manage to drive the Russians back, they will have to bring everything with them, and the longer the lines of communication, the more formidable will be the problem of supply and transport.

In 1933 Hitler sent a German General to Russia to study the prospect of defeating the Russians by sudden attack. After some months this German General reported that though the Russian army might be defeated, the real difficulty would be what he called the tactical impossibility of striking a deadly blow at so huge a country. The enormous distances would make it hard to reach the vital centres of Russian power.

Since then the Russian army has been immensely strengthened, and what I think equally important, 75 per cent of the Russian soldiers are now able to read and write. Many of them are accustomed to handle agricultural tractors since Russian agriculture has been almost completely tractorised in recent years. And the driving of tractors is not a bad preparation for the driving of tanks.

So on the whole, and considering the enormous numbers of men, tanks and aircraft of which the Russians are possessed, I am inclined to think that Russia has a fair chance of offering such resistance to the German attack that Hitler will not find it easy to bring back to the west any large proportion of his forces, to seek that radical conclusion which the German High Command cannot yet guarantee.

We, at all events, are not waiting to see how the war may go on the Eastern Front. We are hitting the Germans by night and by day with all the power of the growing British and Allied air forces. Even in Northern France the Germans are unable to cope with the daylight raids of British bombers

and fighters. We have offered, and the Russians have accepted, the help of military and economic missions, and the United States has been careful not to proclaim neutrality in the Russo-German war.

Another advantage is that the German attack on Russia would close the leakage of war supplies into Germany through Vladivostok and Russia.

Altogether, I think that the German attack upon Russia is one of the most mementous developments of the war. Nobody can foresee or foretell its remote or even its more immediate effect.

I see that President Benes of Czechoslovakia, who is better informed upon the defences of Russia than any Western European statesman is likely to be, has defined the attack as Hitler's crowning blunder that puts the defeat of Germany beyond any doubt.

Politically, it may not be over sanguine to hope that by creating a common cause between the Government of Poland in Britain and the Government of Russia, Hitler's policy will tend in the long run to simplify what might have been a very difficult and embarrassing Russo-Polish situation.

Nor can it be overlooked that, just as the British and the United States Governments have judged co-operation with Russia from the single standpoint of comradeship against a common foe, so the representatives in England of what was Czarist Russia have publicly declared their complete solidarity with the present rulers, of Russia in the fight for national independence.

I gather that they, and other Russian opponents of the Soviet System, have been deeply touched by Mr. Winston Churchill's remembrance of the days in the last Great War, when, as he said, "the Russian armies were our allies against the same deadly foe, when they fought with so much valour and helped to gain a victory, from a share in which, alas, they were, through no fault of ours, utterly cut out."

There can indeed be no doubt that the Russian advance against Prussia in August 1918 contributed materially to save France and Britain from disaster in the west, and to render possible the decisive victory on the Marne.

For this advance the Russians paid heavily, and were never able to recover from the losses they sustained.

Yet, even after Germany and Austria-Hungary had overrun wide regions of European Russia, and had imposed upon the Bolshevists the terrible treaty of Brest Litovsk, the Germans were still obliged to keep a million men in the East, and were unable to throw them into Ludendorff's supreme offensive against the British and French lines at the end of March 1918.

So it is at once historically just and politically wise that the British Prime Minister should have acknowledged our debt to Czarist Russia, and should immediately have taken his stand by the side of the Russia of to-day.

"He who gives quickly gives twice," says the Latin tag. On behalf of Britain and of the British Cammonwealth, Mr. Churchill gave quickly. He did more. He defined British policy in these words of burning power and truth. "We have but one aim and one single irrevocable purpose. We are resolved to destroy Hitler and every vestige of the Nazi régime. From this nothing will turn us. Nothing.

"We shall never parley. We shall never negotiate with Hitler or any of his gang. We shall fight him by land, we shall fight him by sea, we shall fight him by air, until with God's help we have rid the earth of his shadow, and have liberated its people from his yoke. Any man or any state who fights against Nazism will have our aid. Any man or state who marches with Hitler is our foe.

"That is our policy and that is our declaration. It follows therefore that we shall give whatever help we can to Russia and to the Russian people. We shall appeal to all our friends and allies in all in every part of the world to take the same course, and to pursue it, as we shall, faithfully and steadfastly to the end."

UP! THE R. A. F.!

RATIO OF R. A. F.'S LOSSES IN OFFENSIVE. COMPARISON WITH LUFTWAFFE'S LOSSES. DAYLIGHT ATTACKS ON GERMAN CONVOYS. EFFECT ON NAZIS' RESOURCES.

by

Wing Commander L. V. Fraser.

THE *Luftwaffe* has got to fight on two fronts just as the R. A. F. is entering on its period of big expansion. And the R. A. F. is seizing its opportunity. The Germans are feeling its growing punch in three ways.

First of all, those nightly hammerings of German ports and industrial towns. Of these the Air Ministry communiqués say little. All we read is, "Heavy raids were carried out over Ruhr for the seventh night in succession ...." and then, "........for the fourteenth night in succession."

Behind those bare words stands a devastating tale of destruction over vast areas of industrial life and the ports and communications of Germany—relentlessly night after night by the heaviest bomb-loads yet dropped over Germany, with no respite to repair the growing wilderness of devastation before the next blow falls.

And then the daylight offensives over Northern France.

Fighter Command aircraft are now carrying out an offensive against the enemy. Last year the aerial front was well over the British coast. To-day it is pushed back across the English Channel and over occupied territory. The offensive sweeps between June 16 and 24 destroyed 122 German aircraft confirmed. A large number were severely damaged, but are not claimed as destroyed. British losses during the same period were 28 aircraft with five pilots safe.

SIGNIFICANCE OF OFFENSIVE.

The real significance in this offensive is the ratio of loss which the R. A. F. has completely reversed. In the corresponding tactical period of 1940, when Germany was sending over offensive sweeps, they lost at a rate sufficient to shake the German High Command. The ratio of loss was more than four to one in favour of the R. A. F. as defenders. It is now more than four to one in favour of the R. A. F. in carrying the offensive against the enemy.

But there is a third offensive which the R. A. F. is carrying out, not less far-reaching in its effects because it is less spectacular. On March 12 this year aircraft of the Bomber Command began a series of daylight attacks on German shipping from Norway to the Mediterranean. Between then and June 22, no fewer than 97 enemy ships have been destroyed, 19 have been severely damaged or disabled, and 66 more have been damaged in a greater or less degree.

TRAFFIC ALONG THE COAST.

This was anticipated and inevitable. The Germans with the coming of the spring and better weather, were certain to begin sending their ships along the coast in an attempt to take food to Germany from the invaded countries, and war supplies from Germany to bases from which attacks on Britain are made. By this means the Germans would hope to relieve their over-loaded railways, oil would go to the submarine bases on the Atlantic coast of France, and produce seized from conquered farms would be taken to Germany. Along the coasts of Denmark and Norway there would be the same exchange of goods for the sole benefit of the oppressor.

On March 12 fast bombers set out to make a long sweep of the Dutch coast. They went without any escort of fighters and did not try to hide behind clouds, for on that day there were wide patches of clear sky over the North Sea. A vessel of about a thousand tons was sighted and successfully bombed. The offensive then began in earnest, and every day the enemy's seaboard was swept for vessels which might attempt to creep along the coast.

The enemy's first heavy loss came with the sinking of two tankers each of 6,000 tons and with powerful escort of flak ships to attest their value. Regularly and systematically, the 1,600-mile coastline from Sogne Fjord in Norway to Bordeaux on the Atlantic coast of France has been swept, and the enemy has never known where or at what time of the day the R. A. F. would strike.

WHAT GERMANY HAS HAD TO DO?

The loss of ships, thus entrusted to the waves which Germany cannot rule, does not measure the whole extent of the toll which the R. A. F. exacted. A strain has been put on her railways, and she has had to make new efforts to protect these furtive convoys and their cargoes of stolen goods.

She has had to divert many fighter aircraft and anti-aircraft guns in a vain attempt to counter these attacks in broad daylight. She has been forced to maintain standing patrols of fighters, which she might well have wished to use elsewhere. All her supply ships have been provided with anti-aircraft guns, and flak ships accompany even the smallest convoys, while destroyers watch over anything of special importance. But, formidable as these defences are, they are not, nor ever can be, adequate to deter a bomber, which swoops high over the ships and drops its bombs with deadly precision and fatal effect.

There have been losses among bombers, but they have never weakened the resolution of British bomber crews. What is more, they often hit back at the defences themselves; they have bombed flak ships and destroyers; they have beaten off swift attacks of fighters, and brought down several into the sea. As long as German ships venture to leave port, so long will the R. A. F. sustain and increase those daily patrols.

Even when German ships do not put out to sea, they are still not safe from the bomber. Vessels have been sunk in port, or behind the fortifications of the Kiel canal. The fringe of the enemy's coasts has been often swept, as that is the margin of sea which is all that the British navy has left him. Attacks have been made on the naval bases of France, Belgium, Holland and Germany itself. Formations of bombers have swept low over Heligoland more than once, and have taken the defences by surprise.

Nor have these daylight raids been confined to coastal targets. In France, as in Holland, Belgium, Norway and Denmark, the sight of a British bomber flying low over fields and villages is becoming as familiar as it is a welcome sight to subject peoples, who know that these are the first vanguard of the coming army of deliverance. They wave and cheer as the bombers go on their way to probe the defences and demolish the outposts of Germany's uneasy empire.

ALLIES.

"No alliance is of any value", declared Hitler in *Mein Kampf*, "except for the purpose of waging war". His own subterfuges having been miserably exposed, Britain and Russia have probably considerably astonished him by taking the words out of his mouth. Within less than a month of an attack which was intended to strike diplomacy and public opinion dumb with confusion, the two great powers on either flank of Hitlerism have formed an alliance for that very purpose—war to destroy the terror and stupidity of a régime that is founded on distorted memories of war, built for the total purposes of war, and consequently to be halted only by war. Implicitly Russia now associates herself with the policy which Mr. Churchill declared for Britain at a moment of supreme peril last May, a policy which subsequent perils and problems have never been able to shake: "I say it is to wage war—war by land, sea, air; war with all our might and all the strength God has given us, and to wage war against monstrous tyranny, never surpassed in the dark catalogue of human crime. That is our policy".

Even a dictator and a High Command, excited by a succession of bloody victories over ill-prepared neighbours might read in this resolution to east and west of them some augury of trouble. As Mr. Eden remarked recently, we shall no doubt see stranger happenings than the parachute descent of Rudolf Hess before we are through with the men who now rule Germany. Of the stories of dissensions between Hitler and Goering and Ribbentrop over the Russian adventure we cannot, at this distance from the madhouse, say that they are true. We can only say that they are credible. What is more significant of the state of mind aboard the pirate lugger is the desperate and intensive German propaganda attempt to represent the present phase of hostilities as a struggle of "Europe" against "Bolshevism"—or alternatively against "Anglo-Saxon plutocracy". The very absurdity of this campaign of invention is a measure of the fact that Nazi Germany finds herself without a single ally. Captive nations are still dragged behind her chariot—and the drag becomes

more and more apparent as the chariot rolls towards the abyss. Foreign mercenaries are lured or hounded into battle—and mentioned with suspicious frequency in German communiqués. But even Italy, whose entry into the war a year ago was hailed as the handclasp of irresistible victors, is now specifically classed by Germany as an occupied country.

When Britain stood apparently alone against the full force of Axis war-machine, she proclaimed the fact with sober determination. To-day, when Europe's capital is London and Germany stands isolated by her own violence, Dr. Goebbels must be commissioned to invent allies. Hitler once made good use of the "encirclement" slogan. The wheel has come full circle. He has encircled himself.

FEATURE OF RUSSO-GERMAN CONFLICT.

ZONAL WARFARE AMID UNLIMITED OPEN SPACES.

RUSSIANS FIGHTING BATTLES WITHIN A BATTLE.

The Times Military Correspondent writes on July 4.

The tendency of warfare to become zonal instead of linear—a tendency which has been steadily increasing—has become even more accentuated in this struggle amid unlimited open spaces. Very large Russian forces on the Minsk front lie between the German advanced tank formations and the main body of the German army. **These forces are fighting battles within a battle, paying no heed to the general situation, and refusing to recognise the punctilio that an army enveloped is an army out of action.**

There is some irony in this situation, for the Germans, who have always advocated this sort of warfare, appear to be a little querulous on finding it carried on against them on a greater scale then they had imagined possible. Yet, the hard fact remains that men must eat, and vehicles must have oil, if they are to be kept in use, and missile weapons are no good unless they are supplied with ammunition. However, ample room for manoeuvre is still retained by the Russian forces which have been overrun by the Panzer divisions, but they cannot continue to operate in large formations if tanks smash up their communications.

Can they keep up the struggle in any other way? Stalin in his remarkable broadcast speech declares that they can. In fact, the most interesting passage in this speech is to be found in the instructions to begin guerilla

warfare in territory occupied by the enemy, and to form detachments of infantry and cavalry which will prey on the enemy's lines of communication, as well as bands of saboteurs to destroy the material on them. **It is a development which has not not yet appeared in large-scale warfare.**

There may still be a big Russian counter-offensive. The Russian army was neither fully mobilized nor, probably, disposed in the most suitable positions when Germany launched her attack. Doubtless fresh forces are now assembling. But it does not need to be emphasized at this date how hard it is to stop the German military machine when it is once under way.

COSMOPOLITANA.

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1. "The Nazi system means not to think for oneself and speak for oneself, but to do what you are told to do and think what you are told to think."

(*Mr. E. M. Gawne, Member of the Board of Revenue-July 24.*)

2. "Hitler has challenged our freedom. We cannot wait in a corner for him to strike us. We must step forth boldly to throw Hitler off his guard —to bewilder him. We must force him to take the count."

(*Mr. Wendell Willkie—July 24.*)

3. "Resistance is perilous, but neutrality is death. We are opposing Hitler's will in Europe; we must oppose Japan's translation of it in the Pacific. They are thousands of miles apart, but are part of the same black conspiracy against the happiness, lives and freedom of all humanity."

(*New York Times—July 26.*)

4. "The President is at one with Mr. Churchill in the determination to break the ruthless power of that sinful psycopathic of Berlin."

(*Mr. Harry Hopkins—President Roosevelts' personal envoy-London-July 27.*)

5. "We do not expect to hit without being hit back, and we intend with every week that passes to hit harder."

(*Mr. Churchill—July 14.*)

6. "Only Hitler is an exporter of his violent people-destroying régime. Of this hateful export article 'Made in Germany' England, the Soviet Union and the people of Europe are going to make an end: then the people will take their destiny in their own hands. That, and nothing else, will be the meaning of Hitler's fall."

(*Moscow Radio—July 22.*)

7. "The price of peace is constant vigilance."

(*Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary—July 29.*)

8. "It is only by the superb, intense and prolonged effort of the whole British Empire that the great combination of about three-quarters of the human race aganist Nazism will come into vehement and dynamic life.

We may suffer, we may be retarded, but we shall not be destroyed".

(*Mr. Winston Churchill—July 29.*)

Examples of Misleading Statements in Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East for the period July 14—20, 1941.

A.—BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH.

POSITIVELY NO FORECASTS.

In an attempt to discredit British reports of operations in Russia, Berlin (July 14) declares naively that "we in Germany, as a rule, do not go in for prophecies" and alleges that the British Ministry of Information banks on "the shortness of public memory".

In *Mein Kampf* Hitler laid down the rules which still form the basis of the Nazi propaganda policy. He wrote:—

"The receptive powers of the masses are very restricted and their understanding is feeble. On the other hand, they quickly forget."

Geobbels banked on this when he told German workers in March 1940 that pleasure trips to Britain would be organised within the next four months; when his radio stations prophesied victory over Britain by September 1940; and when he

himself, in March of this year, told Spanish correspondents that "before the year is over Germany will finish the war."

So much for German prophecies.

A LONG THREE WEEKS.

When the Fuehrer decided to attack Russia, German official circles confidently forecast that **three weeks** of *blitz* warfare would suffice to hoist the swastika over the Kremlin.

Moscow is 525 miles from the Russo-German frontier. In the first week, the Germans advanced 200 miles; it took them three more weeks to advance another 100 miles. **So after four weeks' fighting they are still 225 miles from their principal objective, and the speed of their advance has been reduced by more than 80 per cent.**

WESTERN FRONT.

In the same way the Germans are at pains to minimise their set-backs on the Western Front, where the R. A. F. is not only providing direct aid to Russia by dislocating rail and sea communications used to supply the forces in the East, but by its devastating daylight sweeps has compelled several hundred *Luftwaffe* fighters to return to Northern France, whence they had been withdrawn for operations against the Soviet.

So, day after day, we hear the monotonous tale that British bombers and fighters "tried" to raid the Channel coast, but were driven off.

Here are extracts from the German Supreme Command *communiqués* broadcast from Berlin in the past few days:—

July 14.

"Minor British formations dropped some bombs in N. W. Germany without any effect last night. Night fighters shot down one British bomber.

"**Attempts** by British bombers, escorted by strong chaser formations, **to attack the Channel coast** this morning ended with nine British aircraft being shot down by German chasers."

NOTES.

(Based on Air Ministry communiqués.)

Bremen and Vegesack **heavily bombed.** Attacks on docks at Amsterdam and Ostend; oil storage tanks at Rotterdam. One British bomber; one German fighter. Attacks on railway yards at Hazebrouck **(40 mls. inland from Calais**;) shipping at Cherbourg and Le Havre; convoy off Frisian Islands. **Five ships (total 22,200 tons) damaged.**

Six British planes, eight German fighters.

July 15.

"In the course of **attempted** raids by British bombers and fighter aircraft along the Channel coast 12 enemy aircraft were shot down by fighters and anti-aircraft artillery and a further plane by naval artillery.

"British bombers dropped high explosive and incendiary bombs in N. W. Germany last night, particularly at Hanover and in the coastal area...Night fighters and anti-aircraft artillery shot down seven of the raiding British bombers."

No reports of day activity.

Docks and industrial plant at Bremen and Hanover **heavily bombed. Docks at Rotterdam attacked.**

Five British bombers.

July 16.

"Minor British Air Force units dropped a few high explosive and fire bombs in W. Germany last night. German night fighters shot down three of the attacking British bombers."

Duisburg-Ruhrort **heavily bombed.**

Other industrial objectives in Ruhr attacked.

Three British bombers; one German fighter.

July 17.

"In the course of an **attempt** by British aircraft to attack the Dutch coast in daylight yesterday, patrol boats shot down six and ground defences three British bombers.

"Last night British bombers dropped **a small number** of high explosive and incendiary bombs at a few points in N. W. Germany. The damage caused was only insignificant. Night-fighters and anti-aircraft artillery shot down three of the British raiders."

Heavy R. A. F. attack on warehouses, stores, docks and shipping at Rotterdam (17 ships totalling 90—100,000 tons put out of action, five totalling 40—45,000 tons severely damaged; two warehouses and a factory set on fire). Further 16,500 tons of shipping sunk or damaged in English Channel and North Sea.

Five British bombers.

Cologne heavily bombed. Attacks on industrial targets in Rhineland; shipping at St. Nazaire.

One British bomber.

July 18.

"When British bombers and fighters **attempted** to attack the Channel coast yesterday German fighters and anti-aircraft guns shot down ten enemy fighters. The German minesweepers brought down two British aircraft over the Channel.

Large escorted steamer attacked in the Channel.

Six British fighters; nine German planes.

"During the 20 hours between yesterday and this morning the British air force lost a total of 32 machines."

See above.

July 19.

"During yesterday's **attempted** attack against the Channel coast German fighters shot down five British machines. Three further British planes were brought down by German patrol boats and two by German naval artillery."

Supply ship (6,000 tons) hit off Dunkirk.

Three British planes; one German.

GERMAN CLAIMS.

67 British planes; no German losses.

TRUTH.

30 British planes; 20 German.

When the R. A. F. knocks out in one daylight blow as much shipping as the entire armada of German U-boats, surface raiders and long-range bombers have ever sunk between them in ten days and nights (see under July 17) **we are told that they were merely attempting to attack the Dutch coast!**

The German radio cannot lie freely when it addresses the people on the home front. On July 6 the German people were told:—"Such attacks can unfortunately not yet be altogether prevented. German defences inflict as much damage as possible on the enemy. **In spite of that, these raids will continue to have undeniable effects.**" And on July 9:—"**These attacks can be as little eliminated as, for instance, artillery fire at the front.**"

HITLER SPEAKS.

Picturing pessimism in Britain over the shipping situation, a Berlin broadcaster (July 16) emphasises British dependence on American help.

Britain is well aware of her dependence on war supplies from America, and equally well aware of the American guarantee that those supplies will continue to arrive.

The German broadcast goes on to recall that last year Hitler said :—

"One day one of the two belligerent parties will break down, and this will not be National Socialist Germany."

However, we also remember other German statements on this subject. For instance :—

Shipping "The sinking and destroying of the whole British shipping will become a matter of two months.'' (August 7, 1940).

Starvation " Britain's food stocks will last only a couple of weeks."
(July 19, 1940).

Collapse " A complete collapse of the (British) war instrument is imminent this coming winter (August 9, 1940).

B.—BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES.

NAZI PROPAGANDA BETRAYS JAPAN.

In their Hindustani talk on July 15, entitled "Accuracy of German Reports", the Germans say that their news are God's own truth because they are based on actual photographs taken on the front. "Words", we are told, "might lie but pictures cannot." The German abuse of pictures was recently brought to light when they showed, in Finland, an alleged "horror film" of the Soviet bombing of the civilian population.

This picture, however, could immediately be recognised by anyone who knew the region as **having been taken during the bombing of Kansu by the Japanese fleet air arm.** The details of the landscape and of the operations carried out left no doubt as to the origin of the film.

FOREIGN WORKERS UNDER NAZIDOM.

Addressing themselves to Russian workers, the Germans, in their Hindustani, Persian and Arabic broadcasts of July 17 announce that Germany has now come forward to free them from Russian bondage. Russian workers, however, probably realise what freedom under Nazi overlordship would actually spell. An insight into the Nazi mentality was provided by the German paper, *Ostdeutscher Beobachter*, which wrote on June 24 : "**Advantages falling to Germans cannot be given to Poles without wounding the racial feelings of the German people. Therefore, accident compensation, sick pay and so forth are entirely inapplicable to Poles, even if they do identical work.**"

RAIDS ON THE SUEZ ZONE.

Berlin's Hindustani broadcast of July 13 plays up the Nazi raid on the Suez area, and language such as "incessant showers of bombs" is employed to describe its supposed severity and success. The Egyptian Ministry of Interior, however, in its *communiqué* states that the raid resulted in six people killed and 14 injured. The Egyptian attitude towards the Nazis' claims is summarised in a cartoon published in the Egyptian paper *Revue Al Itnein*, which shows a Nazi bomber under this caption: "the Nazi bomb-aimer to the pilot: "**A terrible blunder—we have hit a military objective**"!

HITLER AND ISLAM.

The Nazis' Hindustani broadcast of July 18 announces that the Moslems in Croatia (who, incidentally, are a small minority) are very appreciative of Germany's services in the defence of India against Bolshevism. Despite the Axis need for Moslem gratitude, the latter have no cause for thankfulness; least so the Muslims of Croatia. The grim fate of Muslims in Europe under the Nazi heel has been described by Mahmoud-el-Hashimi in the Egyptian paper, *Wafd el Masri*. "**When Hitler let loose his Huns in Yugoslavia**", we are told, "**Moslem towns and villages were among the worst sufferers. Sarajevo's beautiful mosques were razed to the ground. To-day all is sullen and silent in that Moslem town**". As regards that other Moslem country in Europe, Albania, the writer goes on to say: "The lot of Albanian Moslems is stark and fearful starvation. Mosques and shrines have been pulled down and plundered, and happy hamlets have been turned into concentration camps."

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1941—

LECTURE LV.

August ...	2, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	3, Sunday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Tiruvappur ...	5.30 p. m.
		Alangudi ...	6.00 p. m.
		Rasiamangalam ...	6.30 p. m.
	4, Monday ...	College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		Annavasal ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilakkurichi ...	6.30 p. m.
	5, Tuesday ...	Perumanadu ...	6.00 p. m.
		Pulvayal ...	6.30 p. m.
	6, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		Kulipirai ...	6.00 p. m.
		Sevalur ...	6.30 p. m.
	7, Thursday ...	Ramachandrapuram ...	6.00 p. m.
		Rayavaram ...	6.30 p. m.
	8, Friday ...	Valramanikkam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Yembal ...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LVI.

	9, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	10, Sunday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Muslim Association, Pudukkottai.	5.30 p. m.
		Nirpalani ...	6.00 p. m.
		Avoor ...	6.30 p. m.
	11, Monday ...	College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		Karayur ...	6.00 p. m.
		Idayathur ...	6.30 p. m.
	12, Tuesday ...	Andakkulam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Killanur ...	6.30 p. m.
	13, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		Puduppatti (Ponnamaravathi).	6.00 p. m.
		Vendampatti ...	6.30 p. m.
	14, Thursday ...	Narthamalai ...	6.00 p. m.
		Uppiliakkudi ...	6.30 p. m.
	15, Friday ...	Semmattividuthi ...	6.00 p. m.
		Malayur ...	6.30 p. m.